

Approved Minutes of the Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture
July 9, 2015

Attending: Stephanie Marlin-Curiel (chaired), Adria Arch, Carla Dorato, Jonathan Hyde, Aimee Taberner (took minutes), Amy Mongeau (cultural liaison), Will Smith (intern)
Absent: Barbara Costa, Leland Stein

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 by S. Marlin-Curiel.

1. Minutes of ACAC June 4th meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Cultural District planning update.
Update on June 25th meeting of working group. Attendees: Stephanie Marlin-Curiel (ACAC), Barbara Costa (ACAC, Arlington Center for the Arts Board), Joe Curro (Board of Selectmen, ATED), Jane Howard (Arlington Public Art, Vision2020, Robbins Memorial Garden), Charlotte Pierce (St. John's Coffeehouse), Sarah Buyer (Arlington Center for the Arts), Judy Weinberg (Arlington Friends of the Drama, Menotomy Rocks Park, A-Dog), Ted Fields (Town of Arlington Economic Development Planner), Sarah Burks (Dallin Museum Board), Aimee Taberner (ACAC, Dallin Museum Board).
Working group voted to apply for larger designation, Marathon Street in East Arlington to Jason Street in the center, incorporating the bike path and Spy Pond Park and field. Application sections were assigned to various participants. Amy Mongeau to follow up about access to online application and login information. Map committee needs to send map for boundary approval before submittal. Joe Curro and Ted Fields following up on zoning issues. Members of working group to meet with Beth Locke from the Chamber of Commerce and Andrea Nicolay from the Town Libraries to determine involvement of their organizations.
Idea proposed for future: include information on the Cultural District on table in the library and in the glass display tables in Town Hall lobby. This is to be suggested to working group.
3. Cultural Planning update.
Jonathan Hyde followed up with Newton and Lowell and will visit sites and distribute information. A. Taberner followed up with Easthampton. Agreement that we need to present potential consultants with clear list of priorities for Arlington's cultural plan. Need to brainstorm specific deliverables and accomplishments envisioned from process. A. Taberner and J. Hyde assigned developing draft RFP. S. Marlin-Curiel to send thoughts on RFP. RFP to be distributed in fall, finalists interviewed in winter, and consultant begin in Feb/March.
4. Public Art Inventory.
Will Smith, intern, updated commission on public art inventory progress. Compiled all information in excel document. Another town intern working on mapping assets in town and will add a layer for public art. Amy Mongeau discussed a gallery on ACAC website, linking to map and showing images and limited information about public art in Arlington, and will follow up with Will about this. She will also follow up with Ben Craig, photographer, about possibly using his images. Discussion of whether town memorials and historic markers were to be considered public art. Will to ensure that these will appear on list/map of town assets. Idea proposed for future: scavenger hunt featuring public art.
5. Town Day Booth preparation.
Unanimous vote to approve expenditure of up to \$200 for canopy for town day (C. Dorato propose, J. Hyde second). Unanimous vote to approve up to \$50 for table banner with grommets (C. Dorato propose, J. Hyde second). A. Mongeau to send A. Arch logo for banner,

which will also include website. A. Mongeau to reprint postcards. S. Marlin-Curiel to create a "What is a Cultural District?" handout. L. Stein to follow up for charge for electricity.

6. Other business.

S. Marlin-Curiel mentioned that ACAC wrote letter of support for pole banners for open studios. Some term limits are coming to an end. We need to have more discussion about recruiting more members and volunteers, possibly expanding number of seats or allowing for Associate Members.

Meeting concluded at 9:15.

Action items:

- L. Stein to follow up re new Treasurer responsibilities.
- B. Costa to follow up with those who were unable to come to April 16th meeting.
- S. Marlin-Curiel and A. Taberner to follow up with cultural district survey.
- S. Marlin-Curiel to follow up with library re involvement in cultural district group.
- C. Dorato to follow up with Chamber of Commerce re involvement in cultural district group.
- Convene core group to proceed with application process, including representatives from: Chamber of commerce, library, merchant's group, ACA, and Town (Joe Curro or someone from planning dept.) Who? Can someone from ATED take the lead on this?
- A. Taberner to follow up with Massachusetts Cultural Council to determine if a list of recommended consultants is available.
- A. Arch to contact Ann Budner to determine if pro-bono work or intern is available to work on gathering information for cultural planning project during the summer.
- A. Taberner will look into booking a location for July 9th meeting.
- S. Marlin-Curiel to invite ACC member to July 9th meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.